Brighton High School

2009

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Home of the Brighton Bengals

Headmaster's Page

To the Class of 2009

I am so proud of you! Your achievements during your time at our "Castle on a Hill" have been truly amazing, and I am confident that you will represent yourselves and our school with dignity and respect in college and your lives after high school.

The past four years have been an historic time in the country and across the globe, but more importantly, you have helped make history here at Brighton High. You have helped to keep Brighton High School one of the best schools in the city (and state) thanks to your prowess in the classroom and beyond. Thanks to your efforts, we were recognized by US News as one of the top 1500 schools in the country. We won city and state championships in athletics, built prize robots, performed plays with aplomb, and scored through the roof on MCAS and AP exams. We welcomed visitors from across the world to see our school. That is historic!

As you go forward, I hope that you will always remember not only the hard work it took to succeed at Brighton High School, but also the support that you received from your friends, family, teachers, and other staff. In the future, please look for ways to support other young people who are also working hard to achieve their dreams, and find ways to encourage and push them forward on their educational journey.

Finally, as you leave take your next steps in life, remember that your education is not yet complete. To be successful in our world, everyone will need to complete post-secondary education of some kind. High school graduation should be just one step on the way to reaching your goals in life. Continue to strive to achieve in college or wherever your next educational steps take you. Always remember the success that you had at Brighton High School, and know that we believe in you and your ability to keep succeeding.

On behalf of the entire administration and faculty of Brighton High, I wish you all the best for your future

Sincerely,

Toby N. Romer
Headmaster

Asst. Headmasters' page

Another year has passed! Now you are ready for a new chapter of your lives. Remember that you are representing not only yourself, but also your last name. Your last name is important. It talks about the people that came before you and were there for you. Bring honor to your last name! Do everything with excellence! Continue your education and move to the next level. I salute you, and congratulate you!

Miguel A. Prieto
SLC B Leader

As you prepare to join the thousands of other Brighton high alumni who have gone before you, kindly remember all of the teachers and staff that have assisted you in your search for knowledge and wisdom. Take with you an appreciation for the extraordinary efforts people have made toward that end on your behalf. Your education can certainly take you to great and wondrous places, understand, however, that this is only the beginning of that journey. Being educated means a continuous commitment to hard work and that, in order to be truly successful at it, you must be willing to put forth that effort. The dividends that you will realize from those efforts, however, will be well worth the investment.

It has been my pleasure to know you, to work with you, and to see you mature into the fine young men and women who represent the Brighton High School Class of 2009.

Kevin Foley
SLC C Leader

Dear Members of the Class of 2009,

Congratulations to each of you! This is a special time in your lives, a time of achievement and a time of triumph! But let this be only the beginning. Build upon your success; continue to learn and to grow as individuals.

You are graduating at an historic time in our country. The year 2009 will always be remembered as the year the first African-American President was elected! Let this election remind you how much you can accomplish with perseverance, determination and effort. Booker T. Washington once said, Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way. In your lives, I hope you find the uncommon way. Find it by working hard, placing others before yourself, and never accepting less than your personal best.

It has been a pleasure to work with each of you. Please stay in touch. Come back to visit and, most importantly, to help us guide future Brighton High students. Best of luck to all of you!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Campbell

Dedication

Mr. Foley

The Graduating Class of 2009 is delighted to dedicate our yearbook to Mr. Kevin Foley, our Small Learning Community C Leader. Mr. Foley began his career at Brighton High School as a math teacher, became the Program Director for Mathematics and Technology, and then Assistant Headmaster. Mr. Foley has been with the Boston Public School for over 35 years.

As one of the longest serving educators at Brighton High, Mr. Foley has given generations of young adults more than just the gift of learning, but also a wealth of memories and life-altering lessons. His positive connections with students, parents, faculty, and administrators have created a true partnership for educational achievement. His selfless caring and commitment to excellence is matched by few. The countless hours spent mentoring and advising students have meant a huge difference to those students whose lives he has touched. As Brighton High School has moved toward personalized and connected learning, Mr. Foley has forged new roads, working closely with our College and Business Partners to insure our students take advantage of every opportunity offered to Brighton High students.

Mr. Foley also has been the catalyst in implementing a Young Mens Group, for students seeking role models and accountability for their self development. He stated that he most admires all public educators who are committed to helping their students excel in their personal achievement and personal development. Through his teaching and leadership, many have learned tolerance and the attributes necessary to be outstanding citizens of society.

The seniors of 2009 will take with them the genuine inspiration that Mr. Foley has instilled in our minds and hearts so that we can reach for the stars and accomplish our dreams. Mr. Foley, we thank you for your passion, inspiration, direction, respect and fairness. We, the Class of 2009, wish you and your family a long enjoyable retirement, and may you continue to reap the fruits of your labor!

Respectfully,
The Class of 2009

Dedication

Ms. Lopez

The Graduating class of 2009 is delighted to dedicate our yearbook to Ms. Nicolasa Lopez, Family Coordinator and to our Guidance Department.

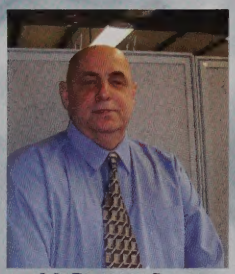
Although Ms. Lopez has only been at Brighton High School for two years, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to this senior class. She had assisted us with both senior class fund raising activities. And she has helped many of us develop a focus and follow-through. As we get ready for graduation and moving on to the next chapter in our lives, we gratefully extend our wishes for her continued success.

The Graduating Class of 2009 would also like to express our appreciation to our Guidance Counselors and Department Head, Mr. Travis for their untiring effort in helping all of us prepare our college applications. Their calming effect has helped us to make our senior year more productive and focused. As we prepare for our post-secondary education, or get ready to enter the work force, we will remember the perseverance, commitment and dedication of these individuals. As we depart Brighton High School and move on, we will take with us the memories of these individuals who have helped shape and guide us. Our sincere thanks to each of you.

Mr. Santos, Mr. Splaine and
Ms. Gearty
Not Pictured Mr. Travis

FACULTY

Ms.Abraham


Mr.Bennett, S

Ms.Bigelow, A

Mr.Bigelow

Mr.Beamish

Ms.Boisselle

Ms.Bouvier

Ms.Bowles

Ms.Bozeman

Mr.Caraballo

Mr.Chareas

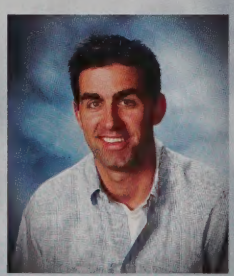
Ms.Cojohn

Ms.Constatine

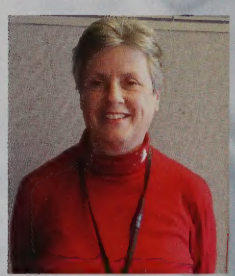
Mr.Cordeiro

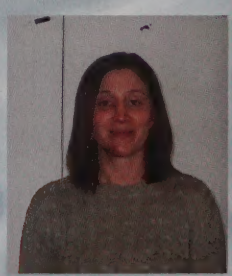
Ms.Coyle-Aylward

Mr.Davis

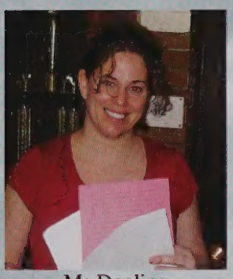

Mr.Defina

Mr.Depina


Ms.Dervan


Ms.DeSanctis

FACULTY


Ms.Dooling

Mr.Duggan

Ms. DuJour

Ms.Edwards

Ms.Figueroa

Lieutenant Colonel Fife

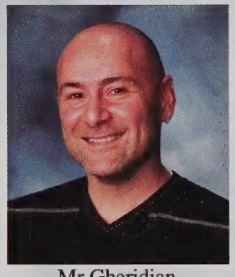
Ms.Foley, P

Ms.Ford

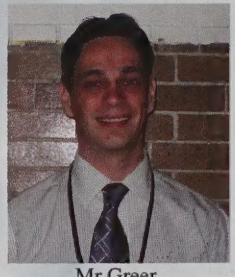
Ms.Foster

Mr.Gay

Ms.Gearty


Mr.Gheridian

Ms.Gomes

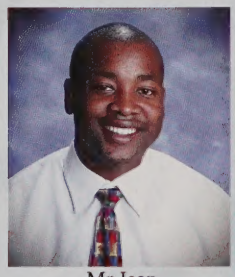

Mr.Greer

Ms.Hamilton

Ms.Hatch

Ms.Holt

Ms.Hostage


Mr.Jean

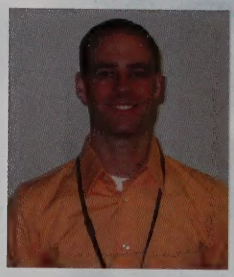
Ms.Judges

FACULTY

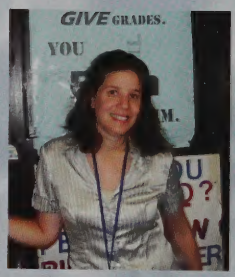
Ms.Kropas

Mr.Krebs

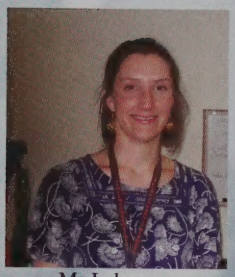
Ms.Kelly



Mr.Kussner



Ms. Levine-Adler



Ms.Lehman

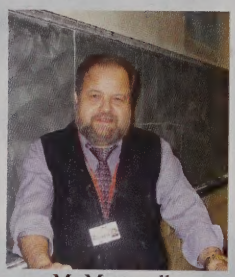
Ms. Linso

Ms.Lopez

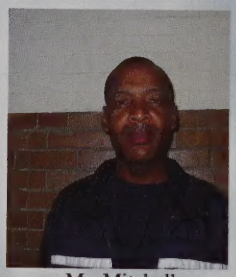
Mr.Mahoney, P

Ms. MacDonald

Ms.Mankel



Mr.Mazzarella

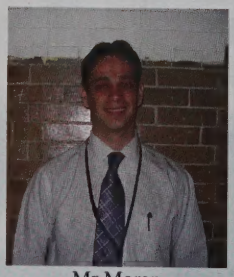


Mr. Mitchell

Ms.McCarthy

Ms.McDuffie

Mr.Mook



Mr.Moran

Ms.Murray, C

Ms.Murray, D

Ms.Norton

FACULTY

Ms.Oberlin

Ms.O'Connor

Ms.Olschewsky

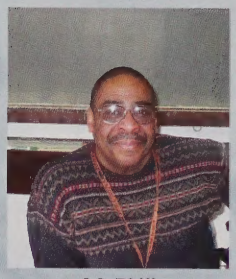
Ms.O'Toole

Ms.Parry

Ms.Pellam

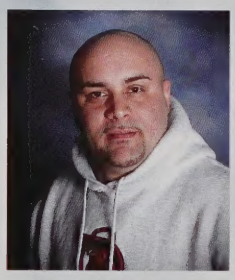
Ms.Petrucci

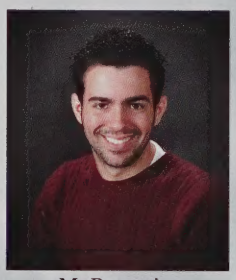
Ms.Pierre


Mr.Philip

Ms.Purple

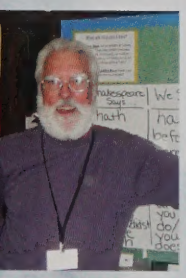
Ms.Quinones


Mr.Quinones


Mr.Rametti

Ms.Reich

Ms.Rivera


Mr.Robson

Mr.Rodriguez

Ms.Rosenfield

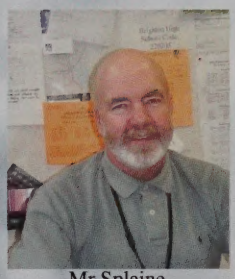
Mr.Santos

Mr.Sargent

FACULTY

Ms.Smalls

Ms.Snyder


Mr.Splaine

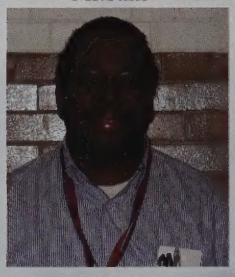
Ms.Stine

First Sergeant Taylor

Ms.Tammick

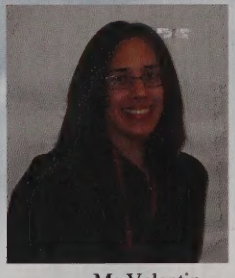
Ms.Thorne-Allison

Ms.Toher


Mr.Tolbert

Mr.Travers

Ms.Troncoso


Ms.Valentin

Ms.Voss

Ms.Wagner

Ms.Ward

Mr.White

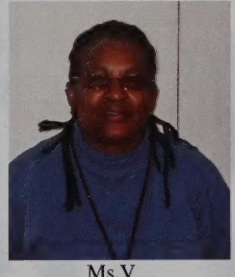
Ms.Young

Mr. Tammick

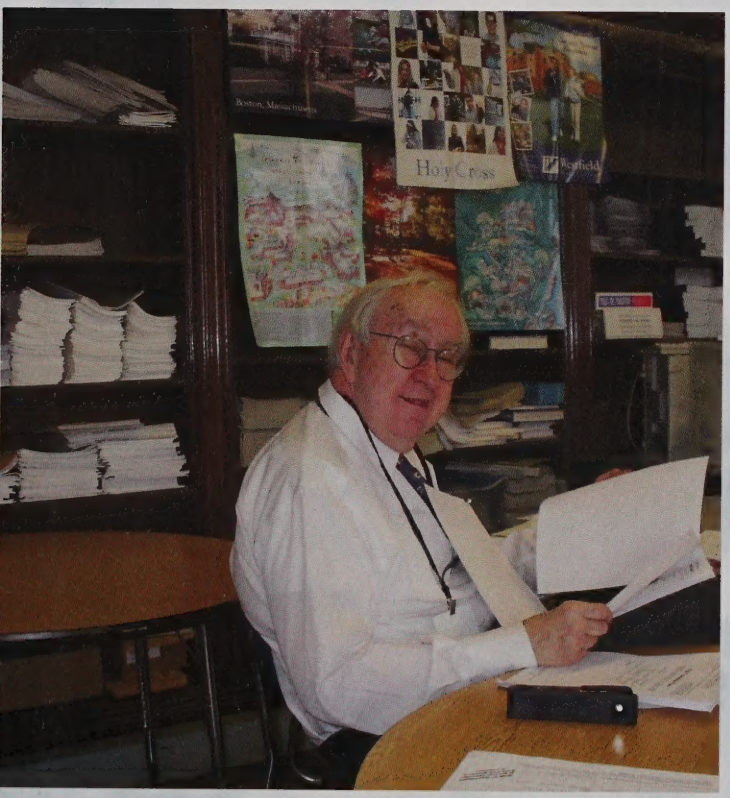
Ms. Hernandez

Ms. Dunne

Ms.Sheets


Ms.V

BHS



OH YEAH BAYBEE!

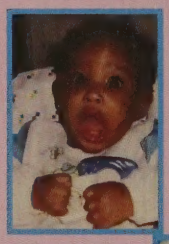
look at us then!!!

Aiesha Jones
Jessie Nguyen
Kim Nguyen
Kimeisha Pina
Schneyder Metell
Shantel Roberson

Alexis Almaida
Joanne Dorgilus
Johnesha Barret
Josephine Obazee
Krist
Lesley-Ann Moore
Ronia Arsene

Lissett Teyeda
Loranye
Lorenzo Cruz
Madelin Pizarro
Meesuka
Melitza Colan
Oranny Meran

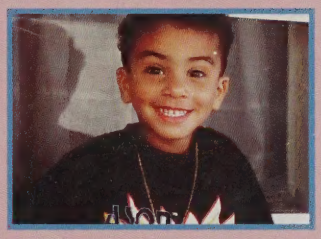
Tahanah Madina
Shanela Palmer
Telma Ijang
Valeri Alellard
Ugochi



OH YEAH BAYBEE!

look at us then!!!

Vanessa Afogho
Andrea Perrgman
Brama Samati



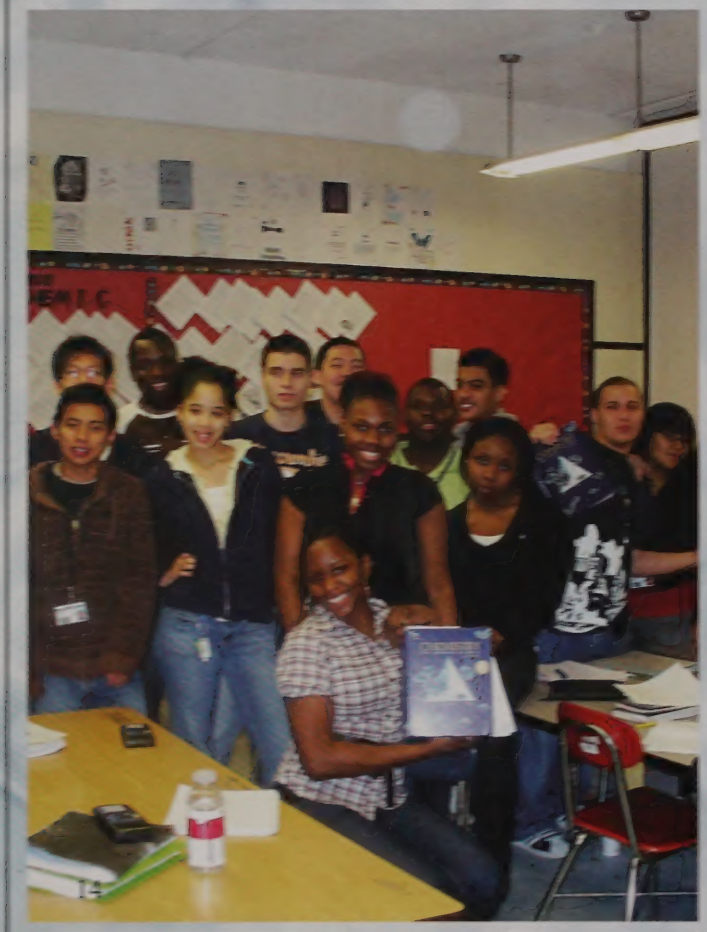
Delvin
Uka Agwu
Damiane

Erica Phifer
Valeri Alellard
Hana Hyseni

Ilaska Algarin
Jacki Stitchell
Jacobie Gomez

Jennifer Rivas
Jessica Pierre
Jessica F.

ABERCROMBIE
AND FITCH



Tell the
TRUTH

STOP

UPCAKES

Congratulations to the Class of 2009

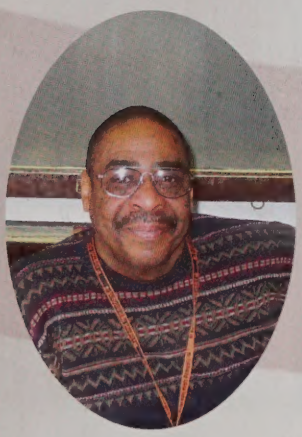
Class Officers Of 2009

Edmund Oribhabor
President

Taihanah Medina
Vice President

Aisha Jones
Secretary

Senior Class Advisors



Mr. Philip

Lieutenant Colonel Fife

Ms Lopez

Valerie Abellard
"Keep a smile on your face and keep a song in your heart"

Vanessa Afogho
"Living and learning is the way of life"

Alexis Almeida
"Four years strangers became friends now it must come to an end... class of 09"

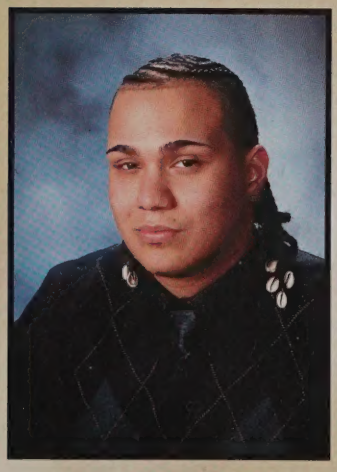
Ugochi Andesy

Nathely Andujar

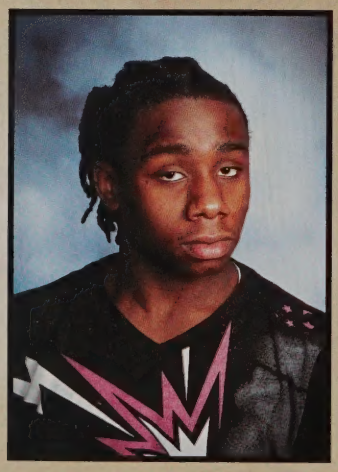
Carlos Aponte

Karina Ariasdejesus
" Follow your dream and become the people of the future"

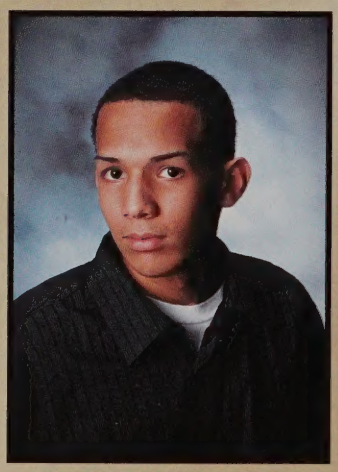
Ronia Arsene
" Life is just a chance to grow a soul"



Derek Atocha



Yves Augustin
"Dont ever give up on your goals. just do it!!"



Gregory Baez

Johnesha Barrett
"Live your life the way you want too not by others"

Marisa Barros
" Life does change"

Erica Berry

Erica Betancor

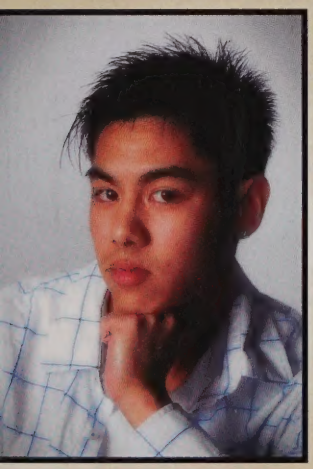
Lorranye Borges

Johnayia Brown

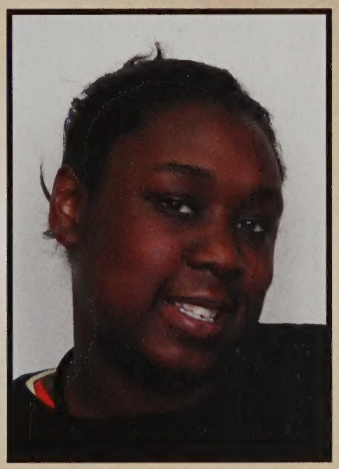
Shasheka Brown
" Life is short for the games,stress, and worrying about those who don't like you".

Tomeika Brown

Maylis Castillo



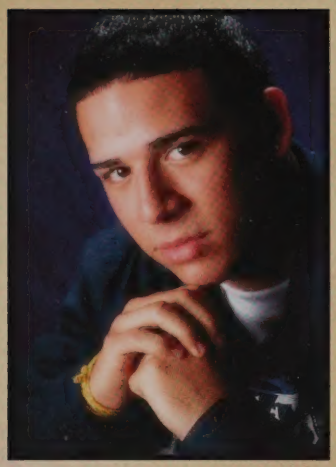
Herman Chan



Norda Clarke

Laura Cordero

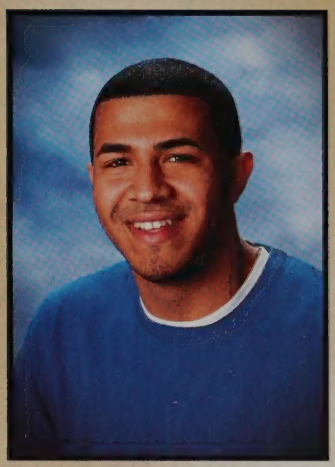
Termika Cropperpam



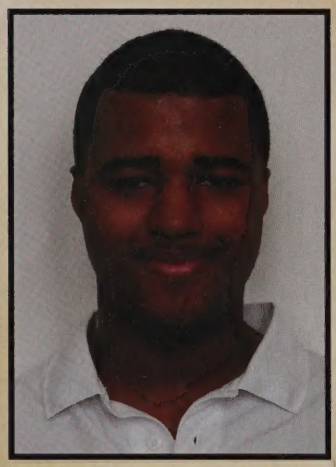
Lorenzo Cruz

Mawloda Dahi
" Be true to your work your word's and your friends"

Shellyce Debow
"You can do anything if you put your mind to it.. 09"



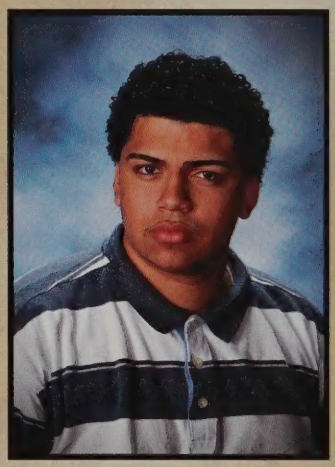
Rey Dejesus



Elite DePina

Aryell Diaz

Ramon Diaz



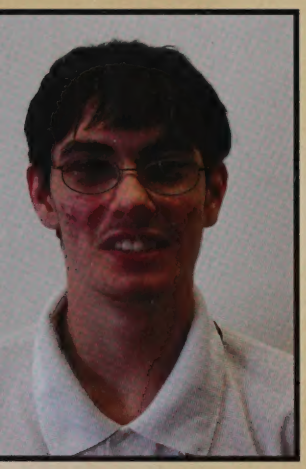
Stephen Diaz

Ayana Dorcemus

Joanne Dorgilus

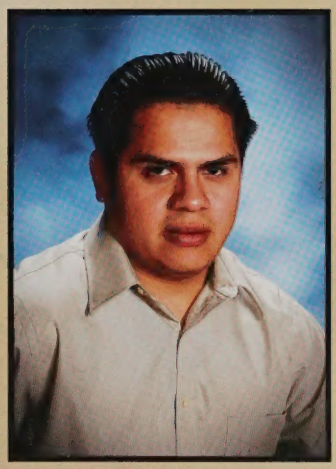
Nakisha Dourdan

Georgia-Love Duverseau
" Whatever the ind can conceive and believe, the mind can achieve"



Johnathan Ebbs

Angeiris Encarnacion



Melvin Escobar

Crystal Farley

Jessica Fernandes
"Here i stand it's all or nothing wow!!!"

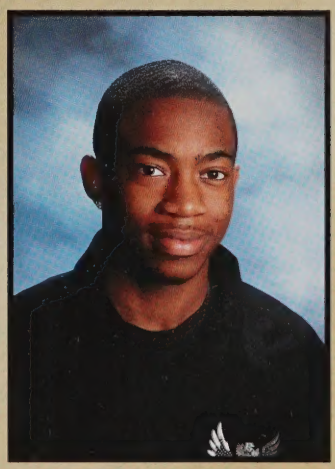
Lori Fernandez

Sanika Forsythe
"Education is the key to open doors!"

Christina Garoz

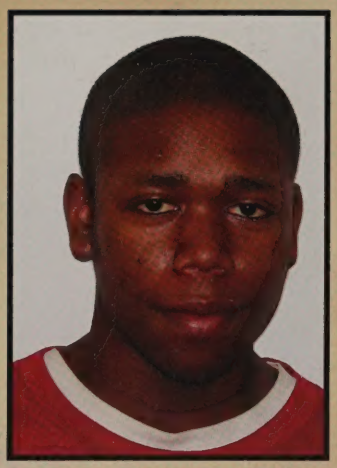
Sabrina Gassmann

Natalia Gnutzmann
"Senior was the best"



Jacobie Gomes

Saynab Hassan

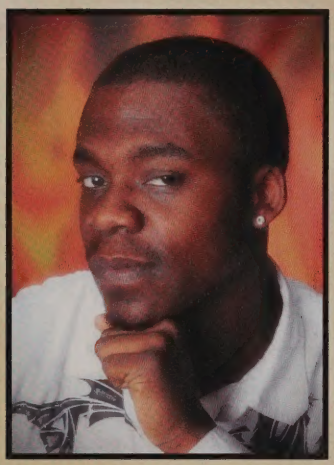


Matthew Hines

Cassandra Hernandez

Vanessa Hernandez

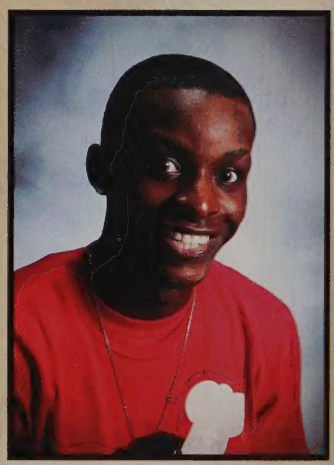
Vanessa Herrera



Daniel Ibeh

Danielle Ibeh
"Life is beautiful if you only want it to be".

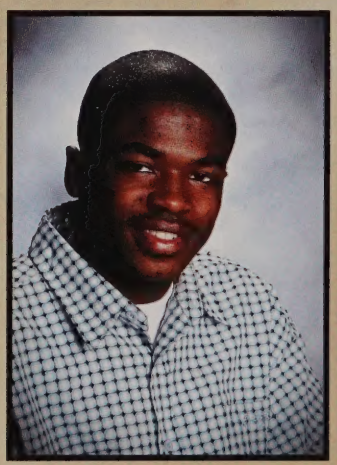
Efosa Izekor



Joshua Johnson

Aisha Jones
"Its in the arch of my back the sun of my smile the rise of my breasts the grace of my style I am a woman,phenominal woman thats me!!

Mawloda Khudaynazar

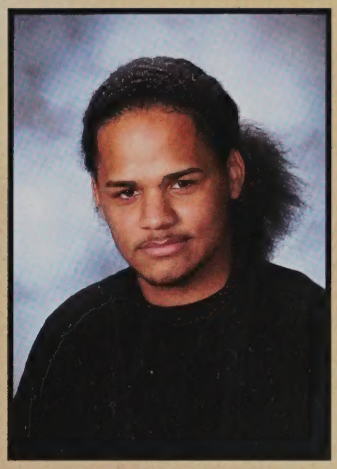


Alain Lafume

Diamond Lewis

Monet Lim

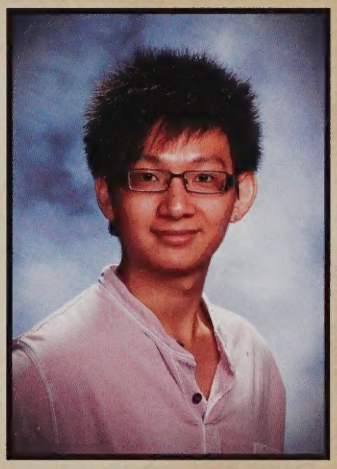
Carlos Lopes
"Cv- racer, be all you can be. live,learn and succeed!



Axel Lopez

Nairoby Lopez

Bernadohte Louis



Weijie Luo
"Failure is the mother of success"

Shaquana Malcolm
"Obstacles are the things we see when we take our eyes off our goals"

Joshua Malone

Betsy Martinez

Brayan Martinez

Shary Martinez
"A goal without a plan is just a wish"

Julio Mashum
" Everything is possible if you really try"

Jessica Mauriz
" HS diploma is your 1st mission for a good future!!

Shalaya McKibben

Crystal Medina

Taihanah Medina
"Yeah..i'm kind of a big deal"

Lindsay Melay
"Accomplish all things in school party in the future"

Oranny Meran

Jessica Molina

Shynnah Monge
" life can be gone with a blink of an eye"

Gracinett Monteiro

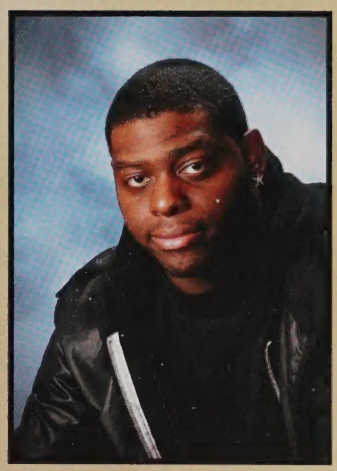
Lesleyann Moore

Ansonnie Morales

Meesuka Morelus
" One must remember that one is the best and must always prosper"

Yohanna Moreta

Kadian Murray



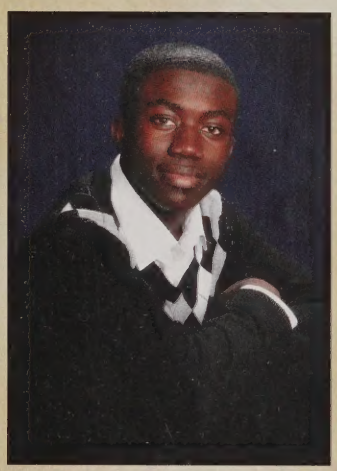
Tonny Nelson

Jessie Nguyen

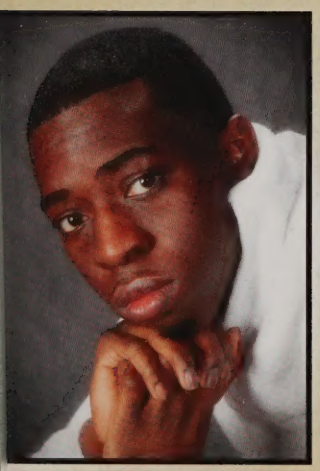
Betzaida Noel

Jazmin Nunez

Aiyevbekpen Obazee
" Do not give up but give your best"



Derick Odei



Edmund Oribhabor

Alaa Osman

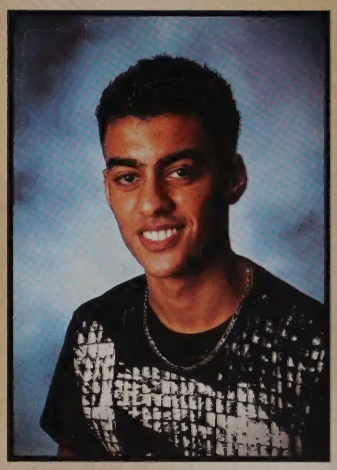
Desmon Overshown

Melissa Pagan

Shaneice Palmer
" Live for the moment and aim for the stars"

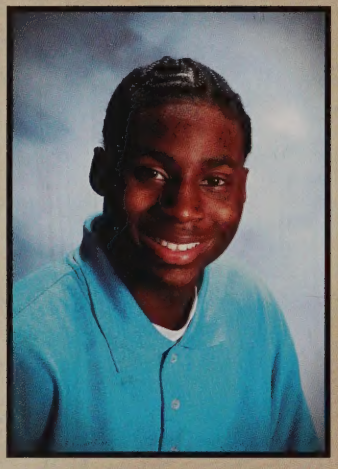
Jaidy Pena

Xavier Pena



Raphel Pereira

Irvin Perez



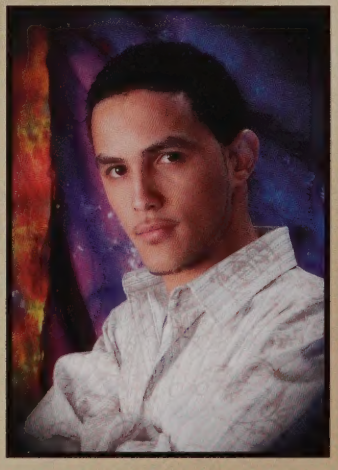
Daeshod Perry
" I dont get mad i just get paper!"

Andrea Perryman
" If you stand for nothing you fall for anything"

Erica Phifer
" Dream it believe it now make it your reality"

Farah Pierre

Jessicah Pierre
" With optimism comes success"

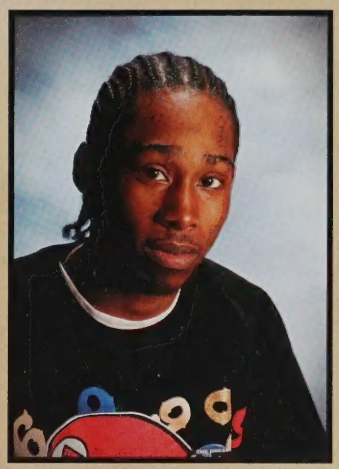


Yonathan Pimentel

Kimneisha Pina
"All great achievements require time"

Rafael Quezada
" If worst comes to worst my sneakers come first"

Laurendia Rabeau
"At the end of the day, you only have yourself. no one can love better than you"

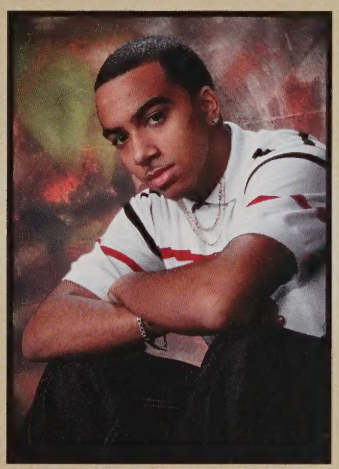


Markus Reynolds

'Laura Ritter
" Strive to be the best dont settle for less"

Jennifer Rivas
" sometimes i'm accused of being brutally honnest."

Shantel Robersongilli



Damian Rodrigues

Christina Rodriguez
" Live your life to the fullest cuz then it passes you by and its bye bye class of 2009".

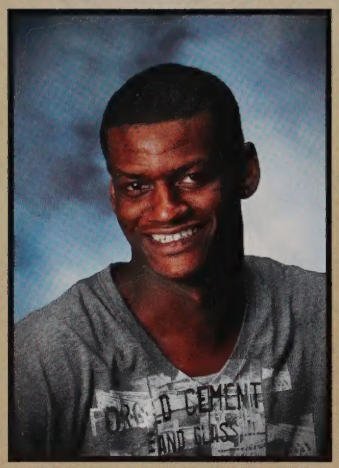
Elizabeth Rosado

Jhon Ruizlondono
" The best proof of love is trust"

Margaret Salas
"Life is full of surprises, look at what i got Brighton High class of 2009"

Lawrence Samuel

Delvin Sanchez
"class 09, we're done and we're never coming back"



Marquis Smith

Marubeny Soto

Abigail Sotocastillo

Cindy Soung

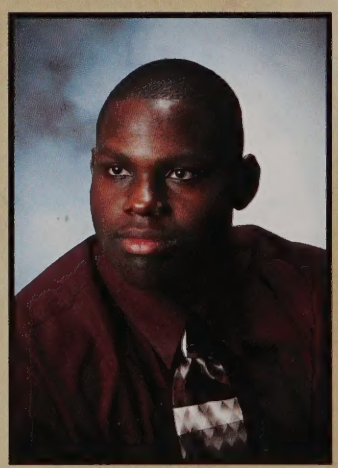
Kristi Stefo

Robyn Stephens

Jackelin Stichel
" Don't waste today wishing it was yesterday, go out and enjoy what today has to offer."

Kenneth Sylvia
" Class of 09 we out here brighton all day"

Telma Talla
" The best gift to reward yourself is EDUCATION, seek the best and the most. LIFE IS GOOD!!! YAH "09".



Alex Tisme
" When life hands you lemons make cranberries"

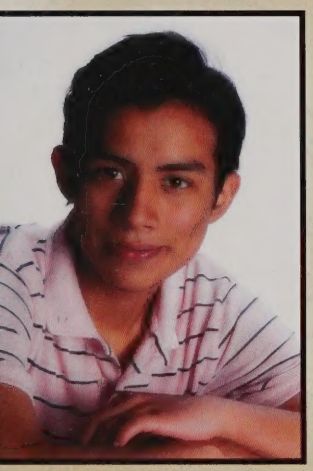
Dahana Valcin

Stephanie Valerio

Eli Vasquez

Tanya Venezia

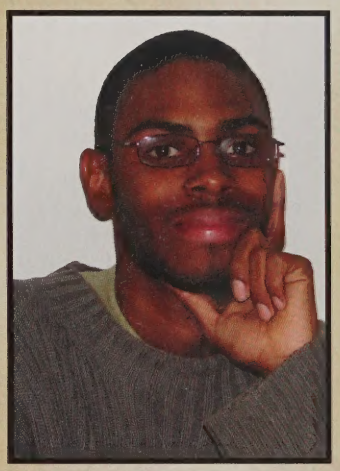
Lauren Vieira



Frank Vila

Madeline Villanueva

Brittany Wade



Antonio Watty

Quandejah White
" Live Love Laugh"

Bianca Wilkinson

Al-Nisa Williamson

Keisha Wright
" Im not famous am just key... well same thing lol"

Class of 2009

Activities & Sports

Museum of Science
CSI:
THE EXPERIENCE

THEATER

ROBOTICS

GIRL'S BASKETBALL

FOOTBALL

GIRL SOCCER

BOY'S SOCCER

JROTC

YEAR BOOK COMMITEE

LTC FIFE

Year Book Staff

Valerie Abellard

oria -Love Duverseau

Shaquana Malcolm

Telma Talla

Sasheka Brown

Meesuka Morelus

Vanessa Afogho

Shaneice Palmer

Andrea Perryman

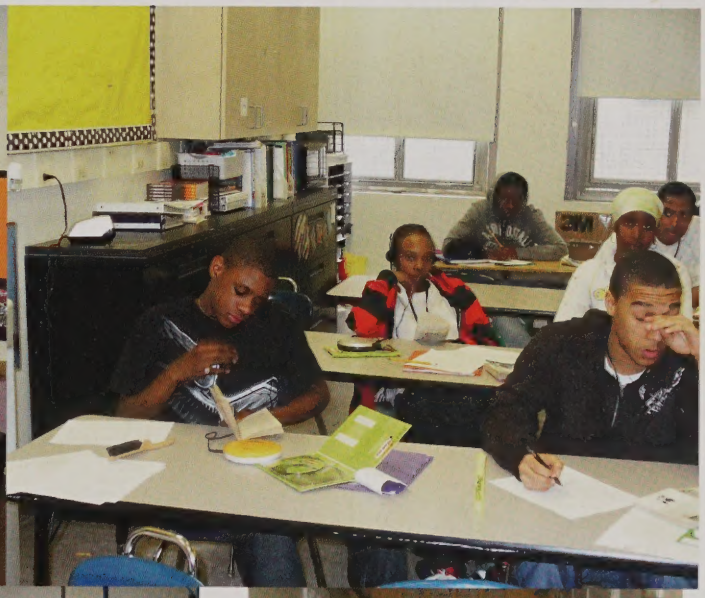
Kimneisha Pina

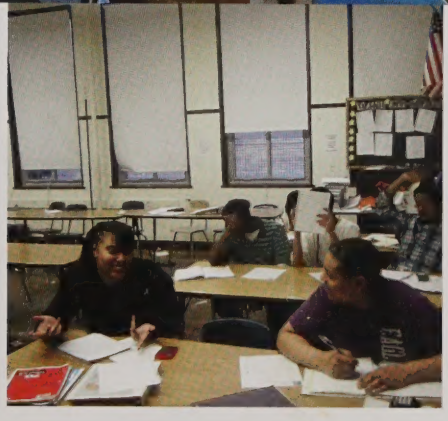
"A POEM OF PREPARATION, FOLLOW THROUGH AND ACHIEVEMENT"

To the class of 09 at Brighton High
You can do anything if your sights are high
Reach for the sky and believe in you
Work hard and I promise your dreams will come true
Tomorrow you're taking an important test
So tonight make sure you get plenty of rest
And try not to stress, just do the best you can
I wish you the best, and hope you understand
That its not just me, but your guidance counselors too,
Teachers, administrators, we all got love for you,
And we got your back, through thick and thin,
Tryin to help you succeed, trying to see you win
And I wont pretend itll always be a smooth ride
But when the road gets bumpy, find strength in your Bengal pride,
And hold your classmates close, like sisters and brothers
So when times get hard, you still got each other
And do your financial aid, so you can get that dough
See your ACCESS Advisor, the man with the for
And so--- tomorrow, show that test whats up, show off your knowledge
And next year, Im gonna be proud to see yall in college

Author: Pete Shungu

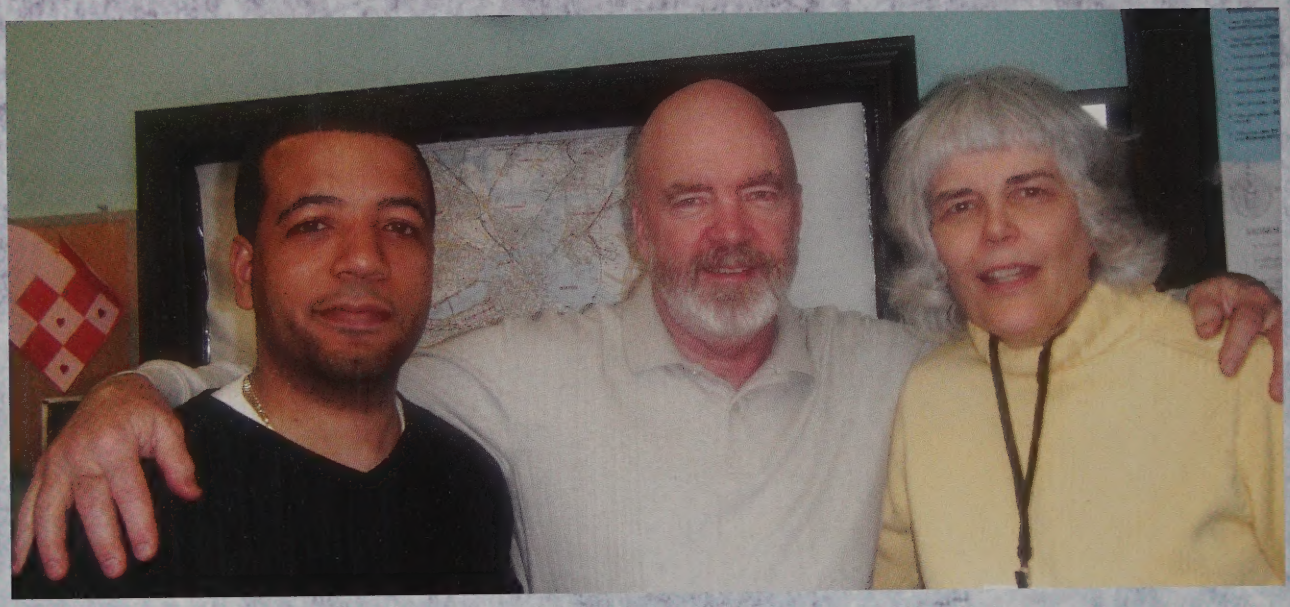
AROUND THE SCHOOL





Career Center

Guidance Department

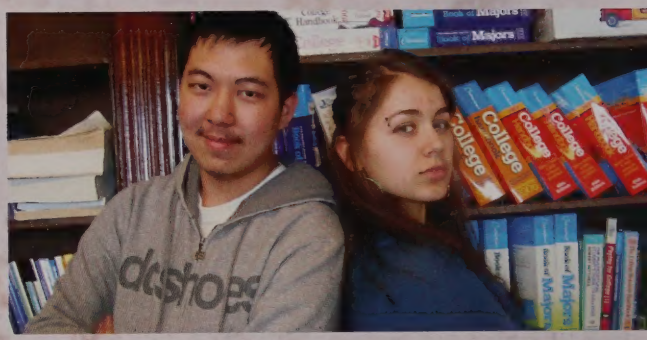


Mediation

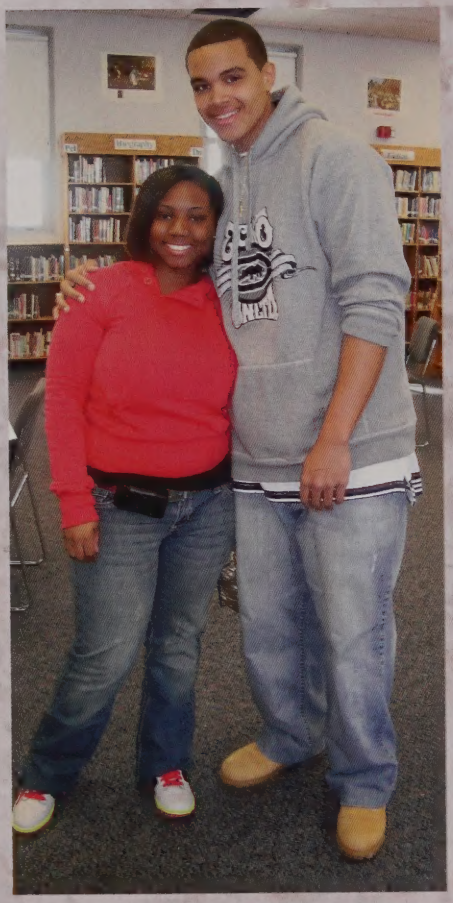
Mediation

SUPERLATIVES CLASS 2009

Most Flirtatious:
Edwin & Brittney



Most likely to suceed:
Julio & Hanah



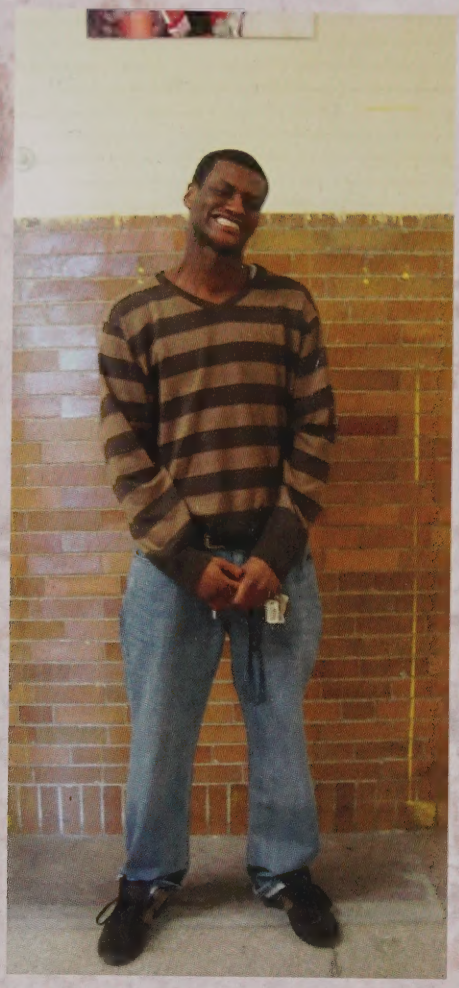
Best smiles:
Xavier & Andrea

Most talented:
Jessicah & Daniel

Best Dressed:
Cindy & Cyron

SUPERLATIVES CLASS 2009

Best Friends:
Diamond &Maylis



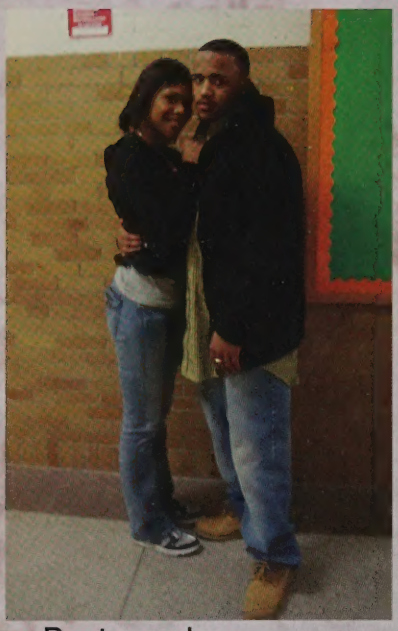
Class Clown:
Marquise

Most Blunt:
Ayesha

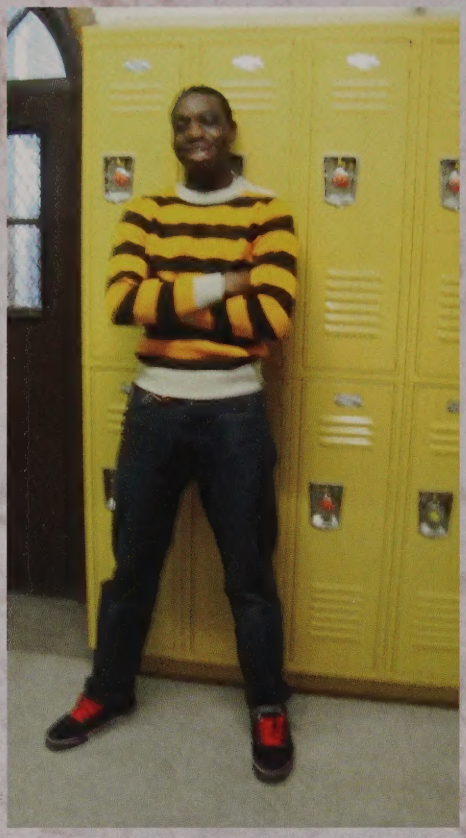
Unique hair:

Most Blunt:
Christina

SUPERLATIVES CLASS 2009

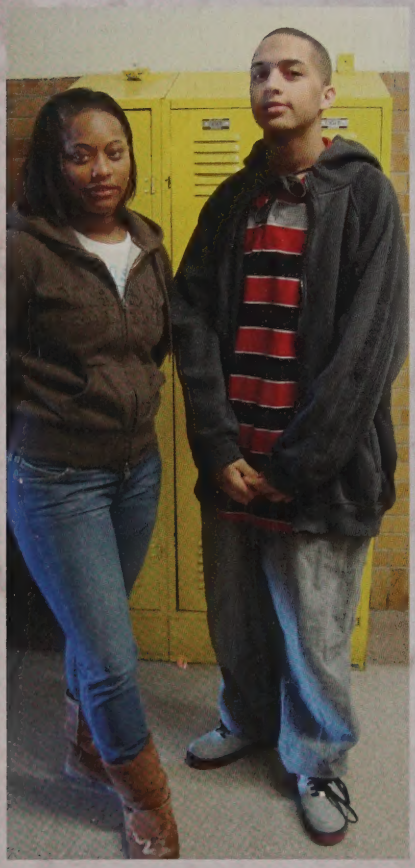


Best couple:
Nakiesha & Isaiah



Most popular: Edmund

Most improved: Josh

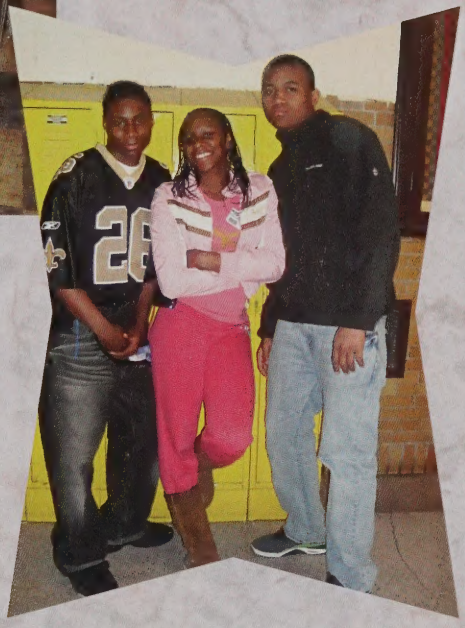


Best Eyes:
Sarina & Ramon

Motor mouth;
Quandejah &
Lauren

SUPERLATIVES CLASS 2009

Teachers Pet: Telma & Stephen



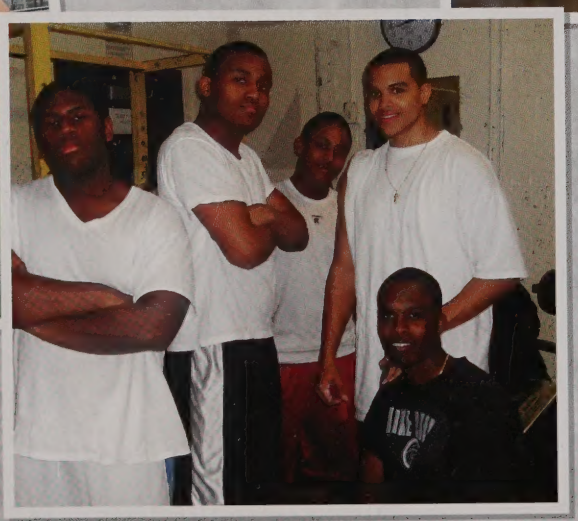
Most athletic: Daeshod, Shary, & Schneyder

Bookworm: Tomeika

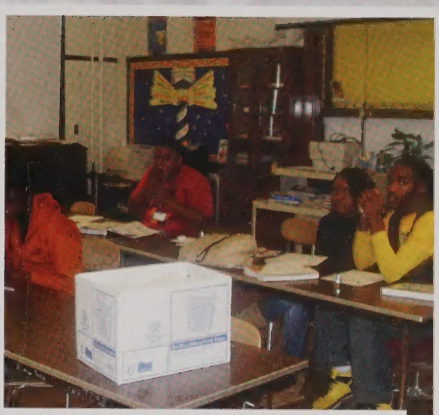
Most likely to be heard in the halls: Joanne

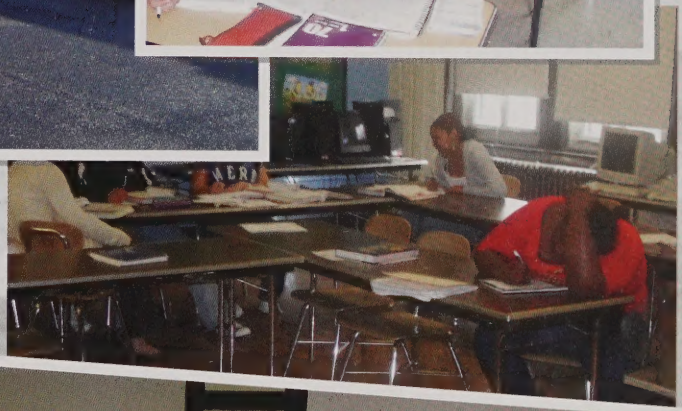
Most friendly: Jacki & Quamel

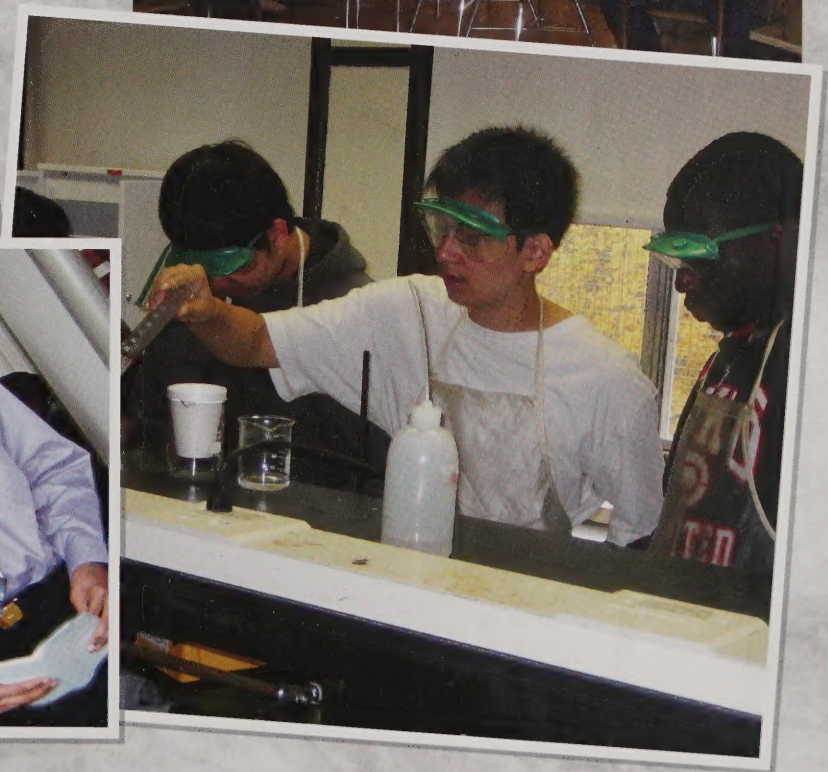
Local Beat



Local Beat







Mr. Cuddy, Ms. Lopez & Mr. Shangu

CAFETERIA

Library

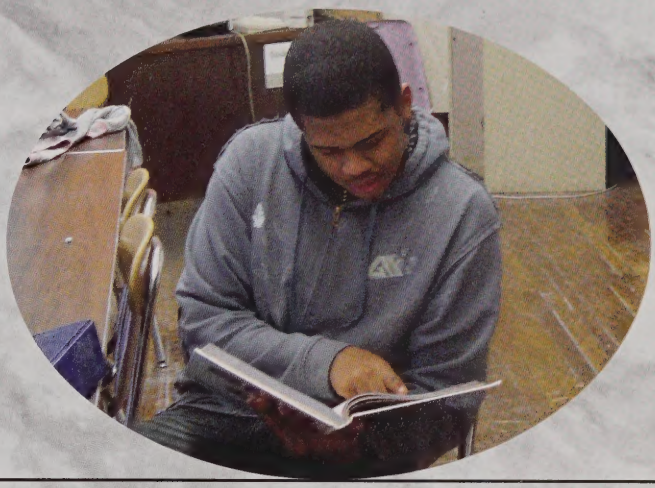
College & Career Center

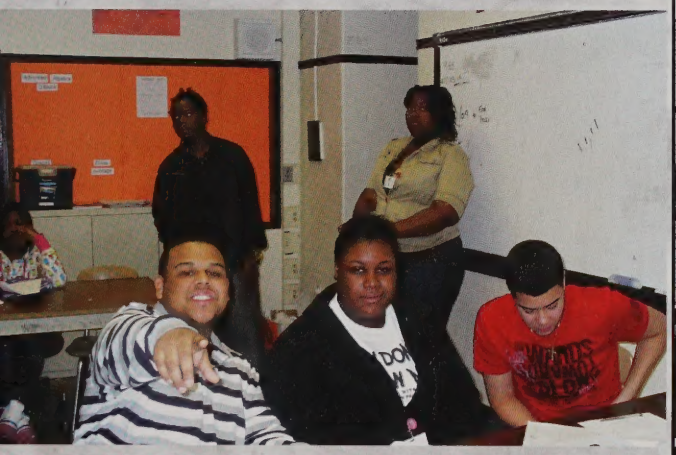
COMING SOON

Museum of Science
CSI:
THE EXPERIENCE

USA

-COOPERATION
-FAIRNESS
-PATIENCE





FAIR
TRUTH

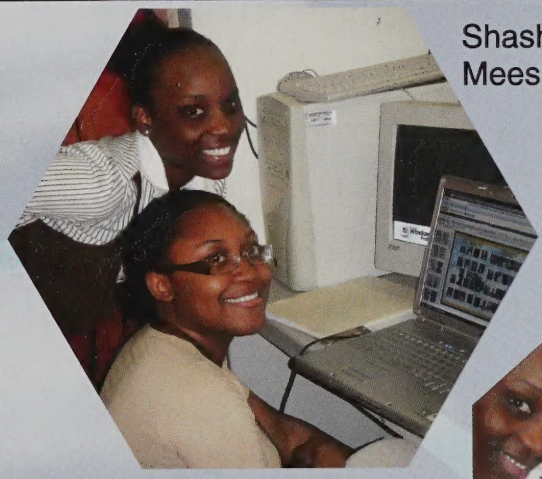
Induction of Brighton High Alumni into WW II Memorial Plaque at Brighton High School

Mr Herbert R. Brown

GIRL'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Ms. Hernandez, Mr. Romer & Ms. Dunn

Shaquana Malcolm



Shasheka Brown &
Meesuka Morelus

Shasheka Brown &
Shaquana Malcolm

Assistant Librarian

THINGS TO REMEMBER

THINGS TO REMEMBER

AS TIME PASSES BY.....

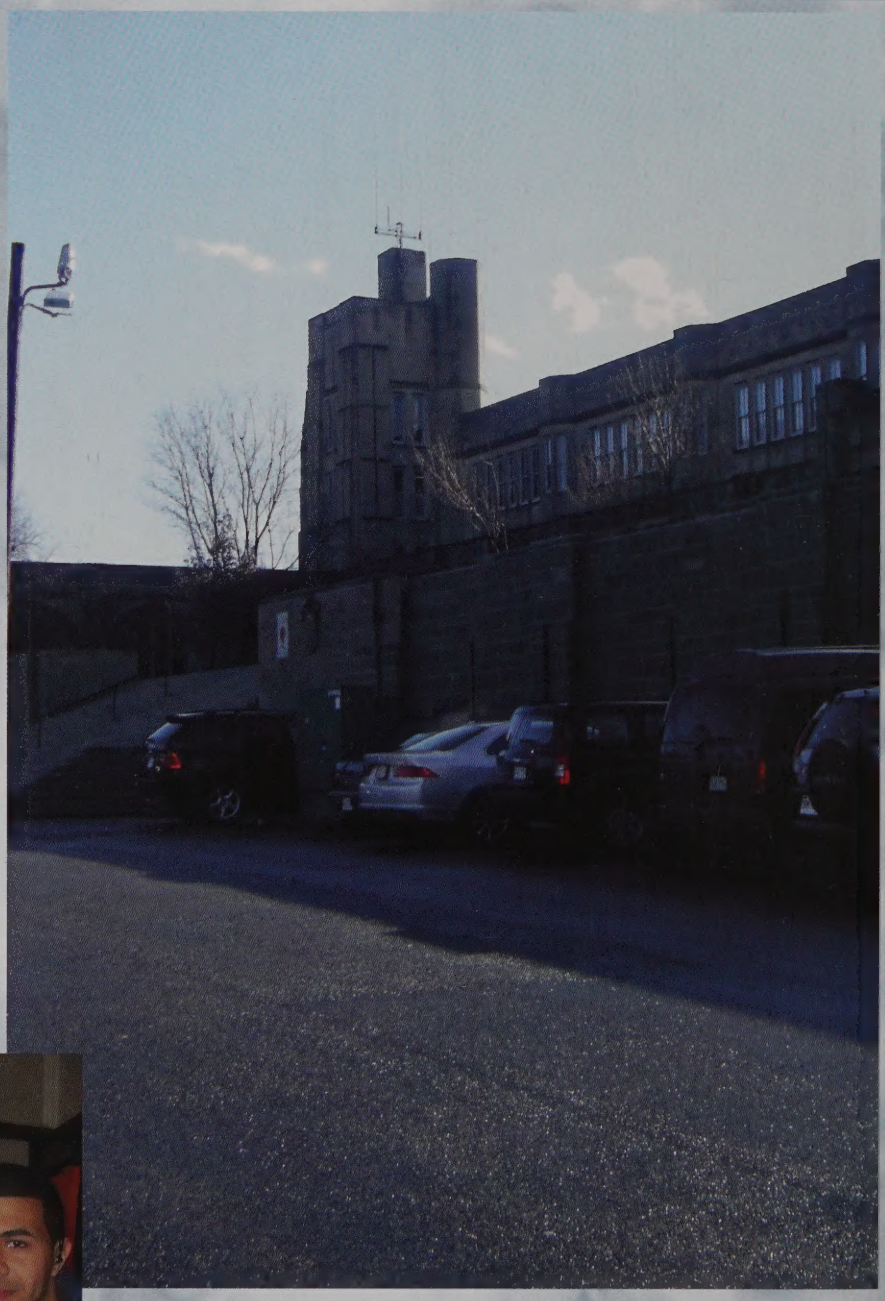
THE .COM AGE.....
WHERE NEXT???

MY MEMORIES FOR
REFLECTING

The Brighton High JROTC

Congratulates the Graduating Seniors of 2009

Saying Good Bye!!!



MOVING ON TO THE FUTURE WAY TO GO!!

2009

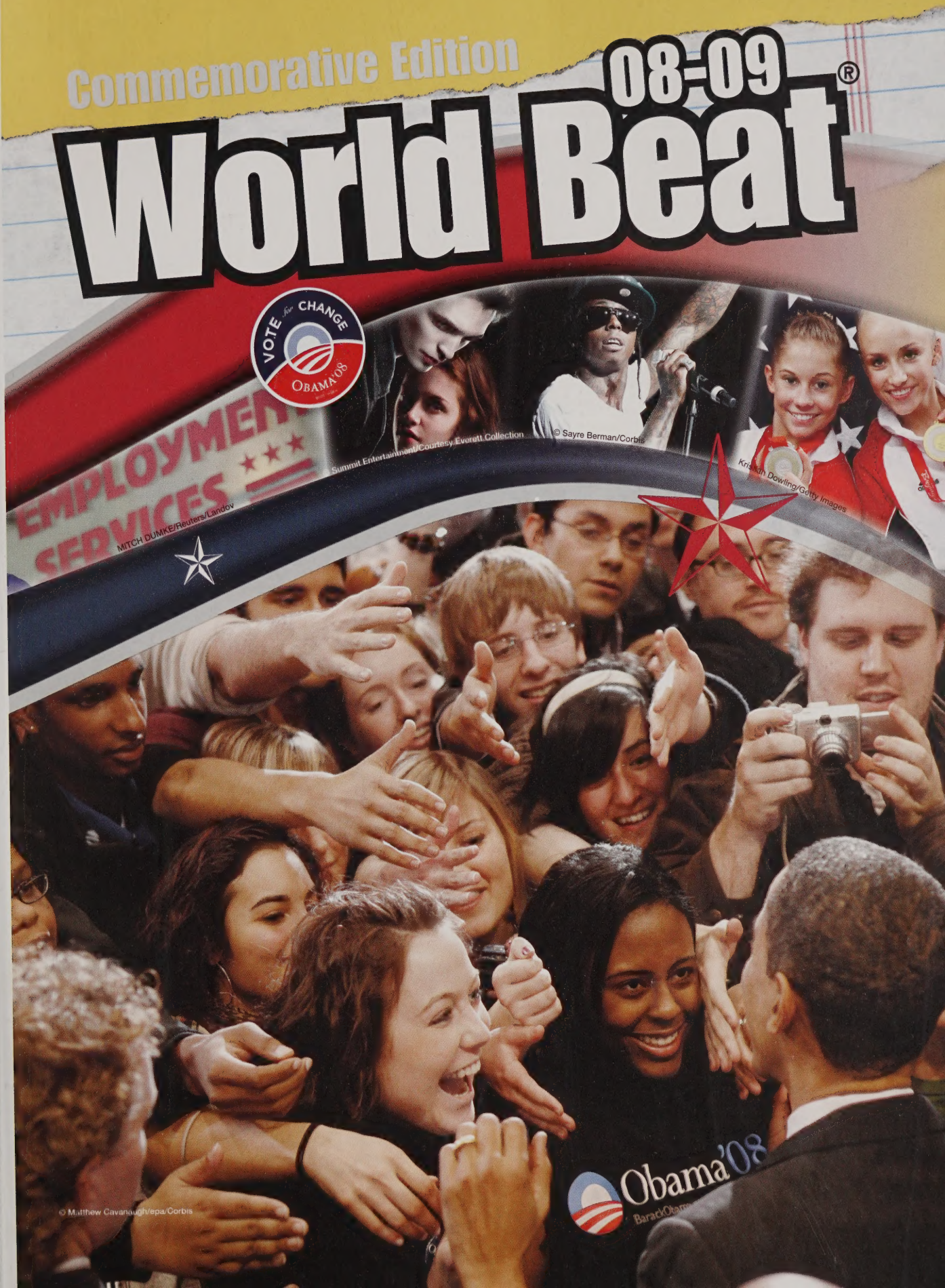
AUTOGRAPHS

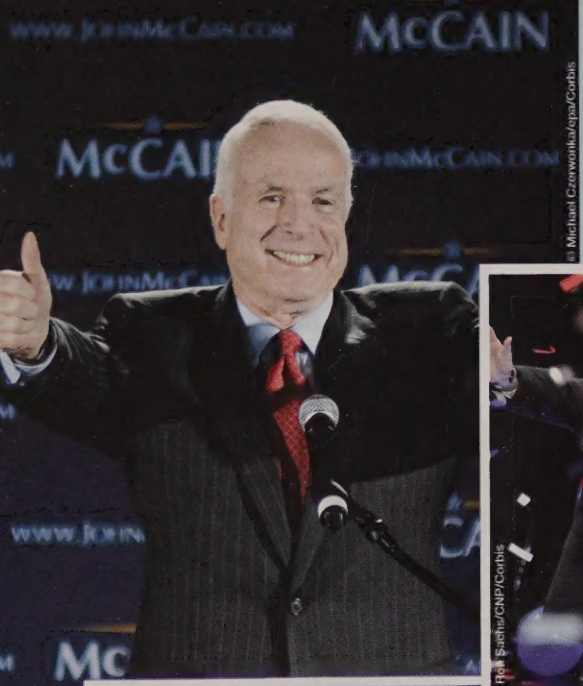
AUTOGRAPHS

AUTOGRAPHS

Commemorative Edition

08-09 World Beat®

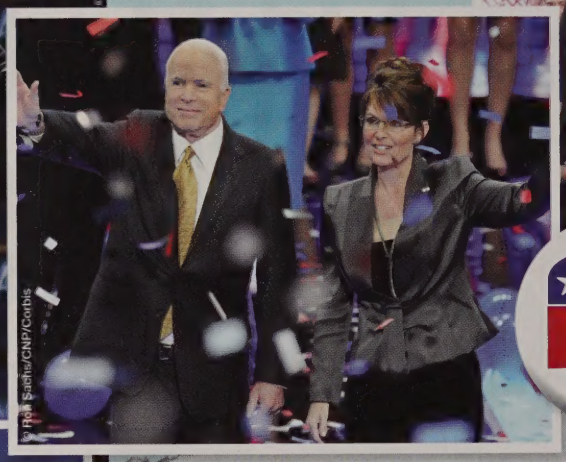




© Michael Czerwonka/epa/Corbis

Arizona Senator John McCain wins the Republican nomination for president and names Alaska Governor Sarah Palin as his running mate. Palin is the Republican Party's first female nominee for vice president.

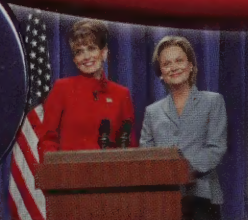
JESSICA GRIFFIN/MCT/Landov



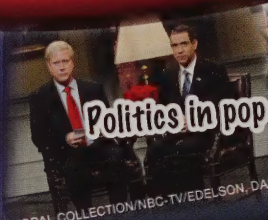
© Hal Saiths/CNP/Corbis

Waves of Change

© Matthew Cavanaugh/epa/Corbis



Dana Edelson/© NBC/Courtesy: Everett Collection



THE KOBAL COLLECTION/NBC-TV/EDELSON, DANA

Chris Gordon/WireImage.com/Getty Images

Politics in pop culture

JOE BURBANK/MCT/Landov

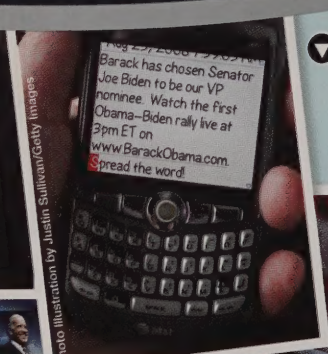

Barack has chosen Senator Joe Biden to be our VP nominee. Watch the first Obama-Biden rally live at 3pm ET on www.BarackObama.com. Spread the word!

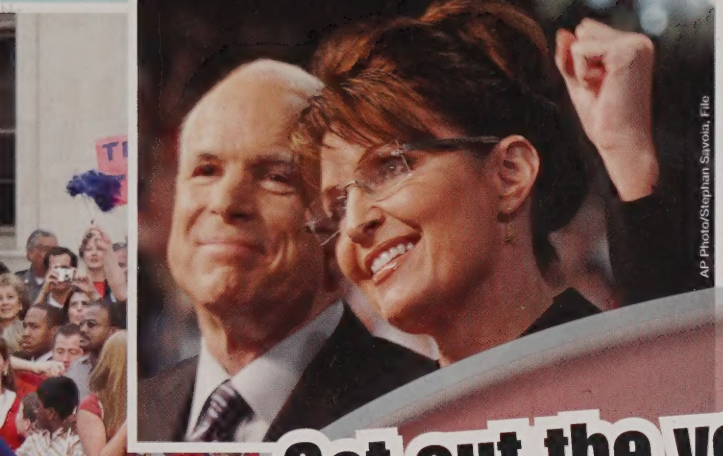
Photo illustration by Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

ROB KIM/Landov

Democratic Senator Joe Biden of Delaware becomes the 47th vice president of the United States. A member of the Senate since 1973, Biden brings long-time Washington experience to the Obama administration.

© Zhang Yan/Xinhua Press/Corbis

Get out the vote!



AP Photo/Stephan Savoia, File

© Gary I. Rothstein/epa/Corbis

Campaign volunteers

Dr. Billy Ingram/WireImage.com/Getty Images

TRACY GLANTZ/MCT/Landov

VOTE

© Larry W. Smith/epa/Corbis

AP Photo/Bill Waugh

I Voted

First-time voters

ED HILLE/MCT/Landov

Obama's grassroots organization and innovative Web campaign is credited with inspiring young and first-time voters to participate heavily in the election.

AP Photo/Joe C. Hong

EARLY VOTING

AP Photo/Atlanta Journal Constitution, Curtis Compton

The values, fashion and personal vitality of the Obama family resonate with Americans. Public interest in the first family rivals that of the interest in the Kennedy family in the 1960s.

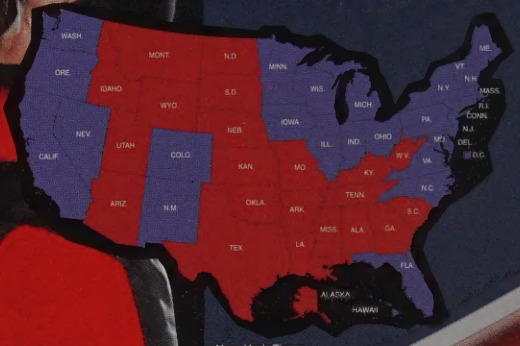
Obama Wins

Barack Obama makes history as the first African-American to win the presidency of the United States. The former Illinois senator promises an era of change that captures the imagination of voters nationwide.

REUTERS/Jason Reed/Landov

Electoral Votes

Obama	365
McCain	173



New York Times

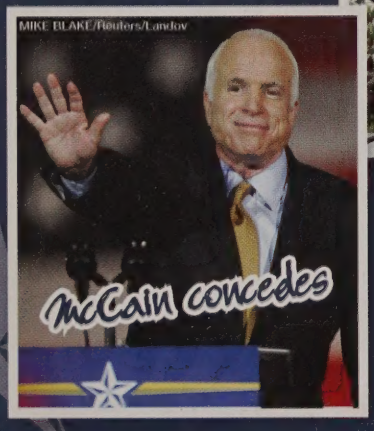
AP Photo/Jeff Chiu

AP Photo/Chris Carlson

AP Photo/David Guttenfelder

Robert Nickelsberg/Getty Images

McCain/Palin run a strong campaign, winning 22 states. But they are defeated 53 vs. 46 percent in the general election and by a substantial margin in the Electoral College.



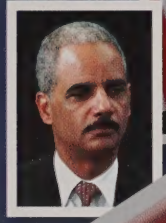
Celebrations around the world

USA TODAY
America makes history
Obama wins
'Change has come to America,' he says after election to presidency erases a racial barrier; Democrats make gains

PAT BENIC/AP/Landov

Obama's Cabinet nominations

REUTERS/Landov



In January 2009, president-elect Obama attends the ultimate power lunch in the White House, meeting and getting advice from President Bush as well as former Presidents George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter.

Getting prepared for office

KEVIN LAMARQUE/Reuters/Landov

© Brooks Kraft/Corbis

Souvenirs

AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster

AP Photo/Matt Rourke

AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana

The inaugural parade

ROGER MULLISON/MCT/Landov

MSGT CECILIO RICARDO/UPI/Landov

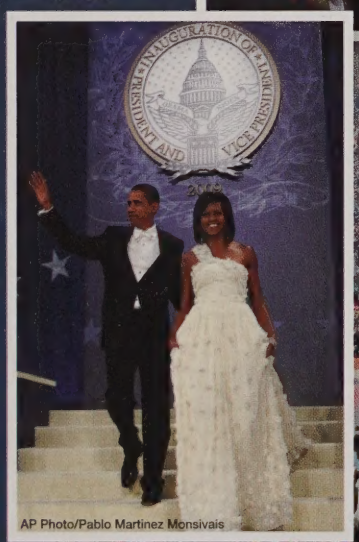
Inauguration 1-20-09

Barack Obama is sworn in as the 44th president of the United States before millions in Washington, D.C. Obama's inaugural address calls for a "new era of responsibility" in the face of economic decline and a pledge to choose "hope over fear."

PAT BENIC/UPI/Landov

© Ralf-Finn Hestoft/Corbis

During the inauguration ceremony, Malia Obama captures the moment from a unique point of view.



AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais

JUSTIN LANE/epa/Corbis

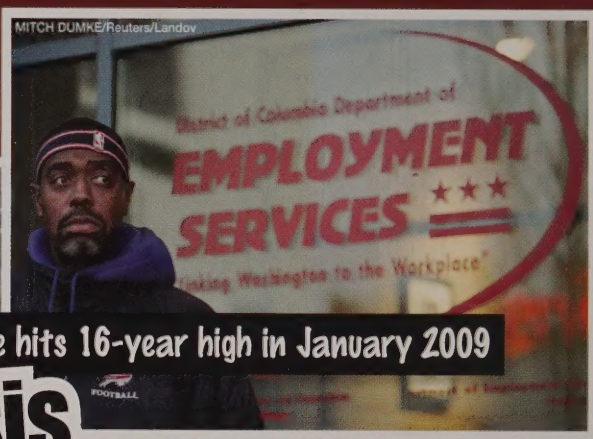
"We have chosen hope over fear..."

© JIM BOURG/Reuters/Corbis

Economic Crisis

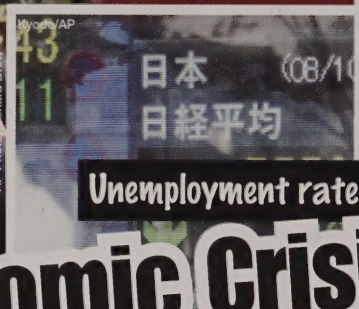
World News

Stocks plummet as years of excess in the U.S. housing market and lax supervision of financial institutions contribute to the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression.



Unemployment rate hits 16-year high in January 2009

With buying power declining in the consumer marketplace, companies nationwide are forced to lay off workers. The national unemployment rate hits 7.2 percent in December and is rising steadily. The hardest hit states are Michigan, Rhode Island, California and South Carolina.

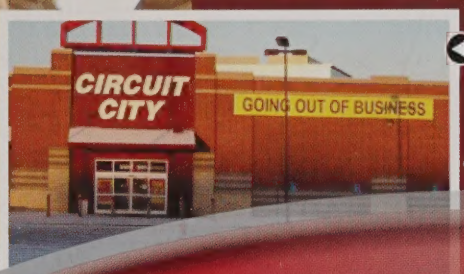


Housing Foreclosures

Photo by Larry W. Smith/Getty Images

Detroit's struggling "Big Three" automakers, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, request and are eventually offered a bailout package of just over $17 billion in December.

MIKE SEGAR/Reuters/Landov



Many retailers are forced to file for bankruptcy or go out of business after being unable to rebound from the harsh economy and a very disappointing fourth quarter of 2008.

©Pursstock

MITCH DUMKE/Reuters/Landov

GAETAN BALLY/KEYSTONE/Landov

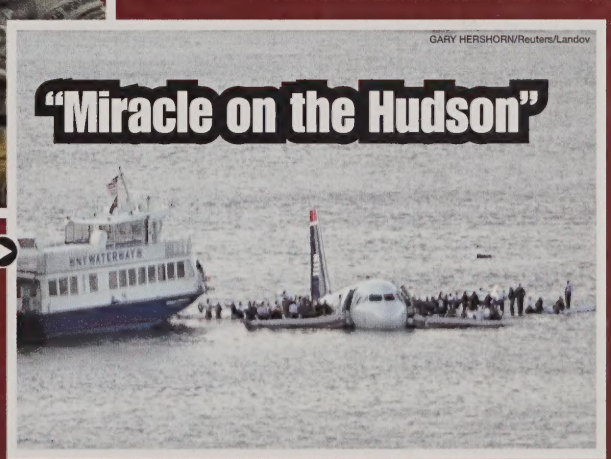
MIKE BLAKE/Reuters/Landov

AP Photo/Musa Sadulayev

The world's "hot spots" center around the Middle East. Israel mounts a major offensive against Hamas in Gaza, the United States continues to oppose the Taliban in Afghanistan and insurgents in Iraq, and in August, Russia attacks its southern neighbor, Georgia, in a dispute over western influence in the area.

KAI PFAFFENBACH/Reuters/Landov

AP Photo/Lefteris Pitarakis



GARY HERSHORN/Reuters/Landov

In January 2009, after both engines fail due to ingesting birds, US Airways Flight 1549 ditches in New York's Hudson River. All 155 passengers and crew members are saved, thanks to the skill and courage of pilot Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger.

Changing our World

PA Photos/Landov

Environmentally conscious consumers use items such as reusable cloth shopping bags and Klean Kanteen water bottles that don't leak harmful chemicals like BPA.

AP Photo/Charles Rex Arbogast

Press Association via AP Images

AP PHOTO/NEWS TRIBUNE/Rosa Ruiz

MATTHEW CRAIG/The Commercial Appeal/Landov

AP Photo/Eric Gay

TIM SLOAN/AFP/Getty Images

Public bicycle sharing systems, already popular in Europe, roll into American cities like Washington, D.C., to help fight traffic congestion and reduce pollution.

Tight money and high gas prices push auto manufacturers to investigate super fuel-efficient and electric cars. The Chevrolet Volt is an early contender and the tiny "Smart" car is already on American roads.

© Transtock/Corbis

© Car Culture/Corbis

CLEAN ENERGY

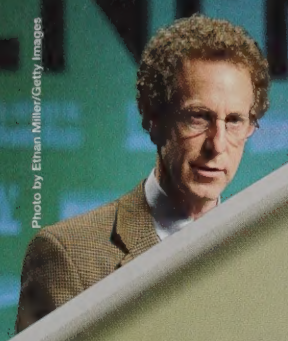
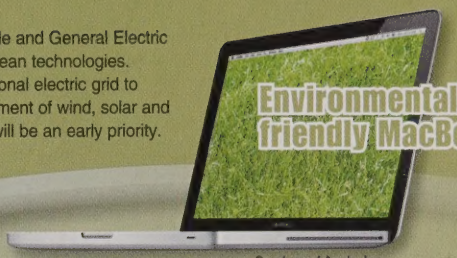


Photo by Ethan Miller/Getty Images

In September, Google and General Electric partner to develop clean technologies. Modernizing the national electric grid to enable wider deployment of wind, solar and geothermal energy will be an early priority.

Environmentally friendly MacBooks



Courtesy of Apple, Inc.

Youth Volunteering

AP Photo/The Brazosport Facts, Dan Dalstra

JIM WEBER/The Commercial Appeal/Landov

© Mark Dyer/Star Ledger/Corbis

AP Photo/Cheryl Gerber

Mark Mainz/Getty Images

Brad Pitt launches the "Make It Right" project to build 150 green-sensitive new homes in the New Orleans Lower 9th Ward, which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. Pitt contributes $5 million to the project.

The green cleaning movement gains momentum nationally as environmentally safe non-toxic cleaning products are used in many homes, as well as state and city institutions.

AP Photo/Charles Dharapak

Michael Tran/Getty Images

National Day of Service

President-elect Obama asks all Americans to volunteer their time on the 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, January 19, and to continue throughout the year. More than 12,000 service projects take place across the country.

Summer Olympics

The Beijing 2008 Summer Olympics showcase some of the most amazing performances in Olympic history.

MA ZHANCHENG/Xinhua/Landov

American swimmer Michael Phelps makes Olympic history with eight gold medals. Phelps sets three world records in his five individual wins.

© Chen Kai/Xinhua Press/Corbis

MCT/Landov

Usain Bolt

Fastest man EVER!

Sports

The Olympic Opening Ceremony

AP Photo/Color China Photo

Cristiano Ronaldo

©Tommy Hindley/NewSport/Corbis

Tiger Woods

Doug Pensinger/Getty Images

Karen Jones

Christian Petersen/Getty Images

Red Wings win 2008 Stanley Cup

AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar

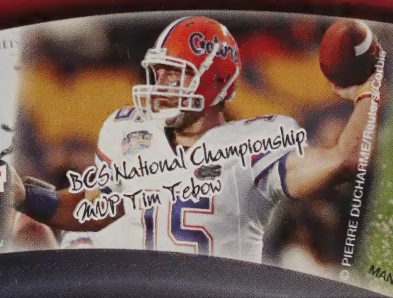
World Series

BRADLEY C. BOWER/Bloomberg News/Landov

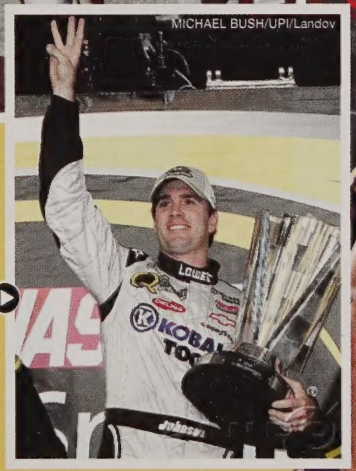
The Philadelphia Phillies win their second World Series with a five game victory over the Tampa Bay Rays. The fifth game takes three days to complete after a rain delay.

The Chinese gymnasts take the team title, but Americans Shawn Johnson (floor exercise) and Nastia Liukin (all-around) take individual gold medals for the U.S.

Gymnastics



MVP Santonio Holmes makes a tip-toe catch in the corner of the end zone with 35 seconds remaining to lead the Pittsburgh Steelers past the Arizona Cardinals 27-23 in Super Bowl XLIII.



Jimmie Johnson captures the NASCAR Sprint Cup championship for the third straight year in his famous #48 Lowe's Chevrolet Impala SS.

twilight Entertainment

Stephenie Meyer's runaway best-seller, *Twilight*, becomes a hit movie starring Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart as Edward and Bella.

Mary Ellen Matthews/© NBC/Courtesy: Everett Collection

Tina Fey

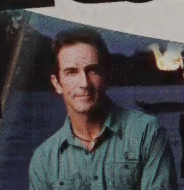
© Summit Entertainment/Courtesy Everett Collection

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist

© Sony Pictures/courtesy Everett Collection

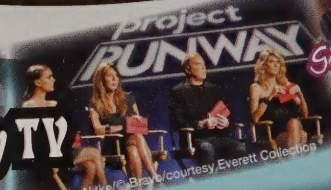
GREEK

ABC Family/Photofest



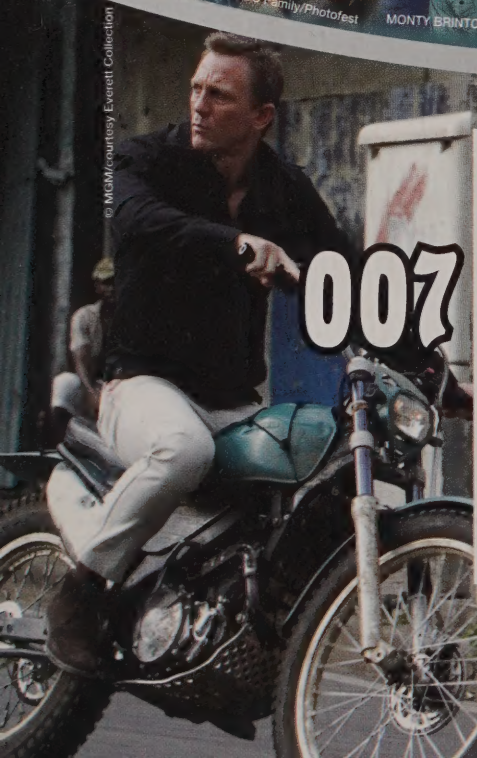
MONTY BRINTON/CBS/Landov

Reality TV



Barbara Nitke/© Bravo/courtesy Everett Collection

THE KOBAL COLLECTION/ABC-TV/SJODIN, CRAIG



© MGM/courtesy Everett Collection

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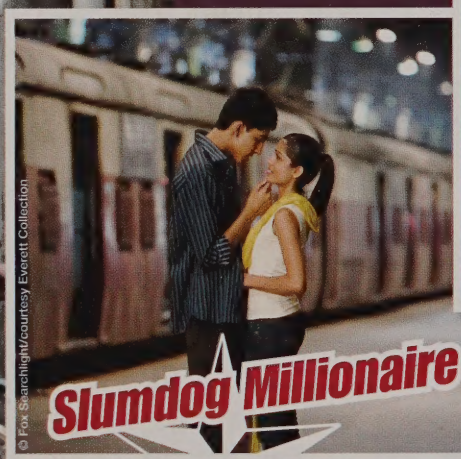
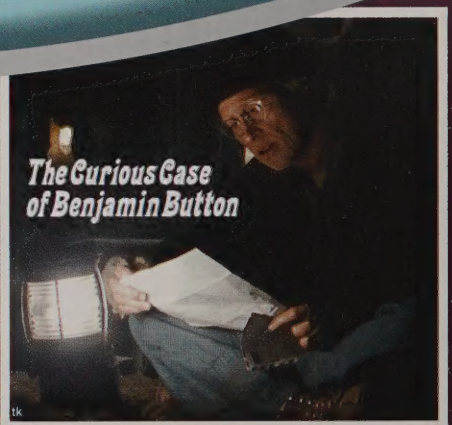


© Fox Searchlight/courtesy Everett Collection

Slumdog Millionaire



tk

Slumdog Millionaire, a surprise entry from India about teen life in Mumbai, and Brad Pitt's *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, about a man who ages backwards, monopolize Academy Award nominations with a combined total of 23.

MTV spins off the reality show *The Hills*, following *Laguna Beach* star Lauren Conrad and her friends to Los Angeles.

© Lions Gate/courtesy Everett Collection

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FOX/Photofest

Sony Pictures/Courtesy Everett Collection

© Warner Bros./Courtesy Everett Collection

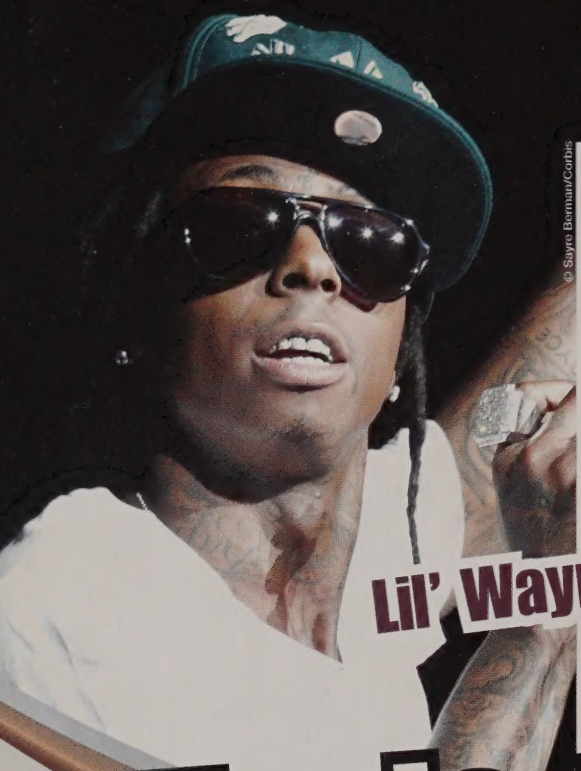
Australian Heath Ledger, in his last film role as the Joker in the Batman epic *The Dark Knight*, wins a posthumous Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama.

Paul Blart: Mall Cop

Bedtime Stories

Walt Disney Pictures/Courtesy Everett Collection

Music

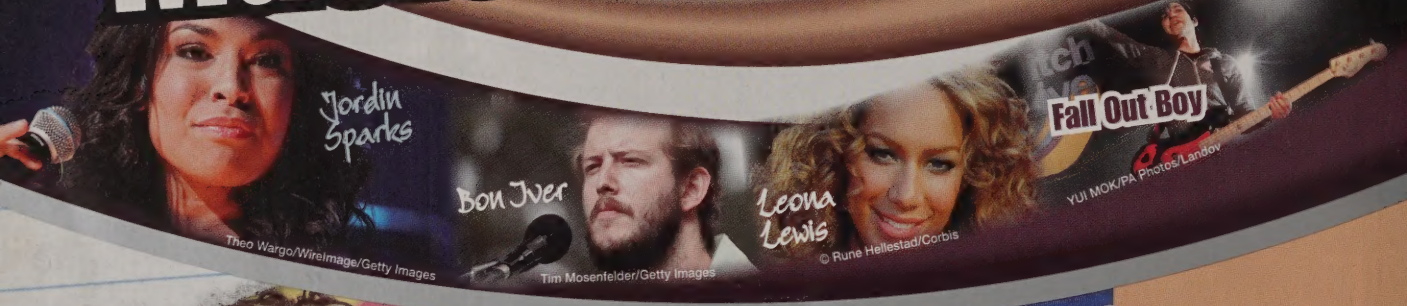


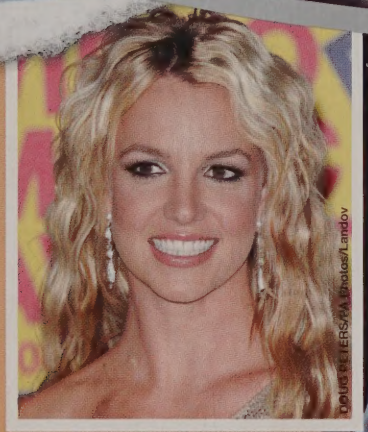
© Sayre Berman/Corbis

Rapper Lil' Wayne takes home four Grammies, including Rap Album of the Year for *Tha Carter III* and Best Rap Song.

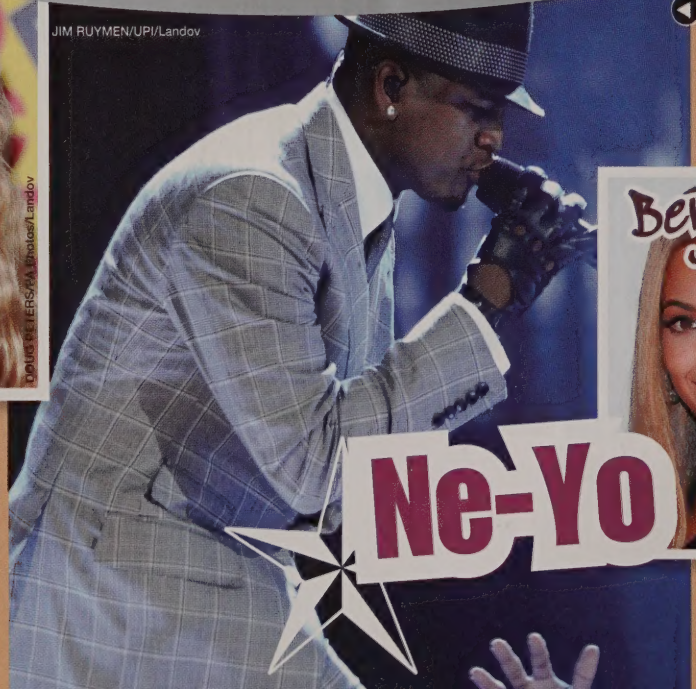
MTV

Due to low ratings, MTV's flagship show *Total Request Live* shuts down in November after a 10-year run.



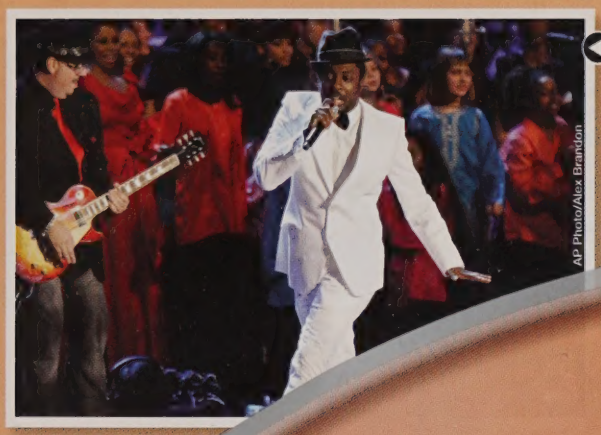


Britney Spears rebounds from years of personal challenges with her fifth No.1 album, *Circus*. She becomes the only act in Nielsen SoundScan history to have four albums that debute with 500,000 or more copies sold.



R&B singer/songwriter Ne-Yo brings out his third album, *Year of the Gentleman*, which debuts on the *Billboard* 200 at No. 2. The album garners six Grammy nominations.

Ne-Yo



AP Photo/Alex Brandon

The video for Will.i.am's song "Yes We Can" garners more than 1.3 million hits on YouTube and becomes an anthem for young voters during the presidential campaign.

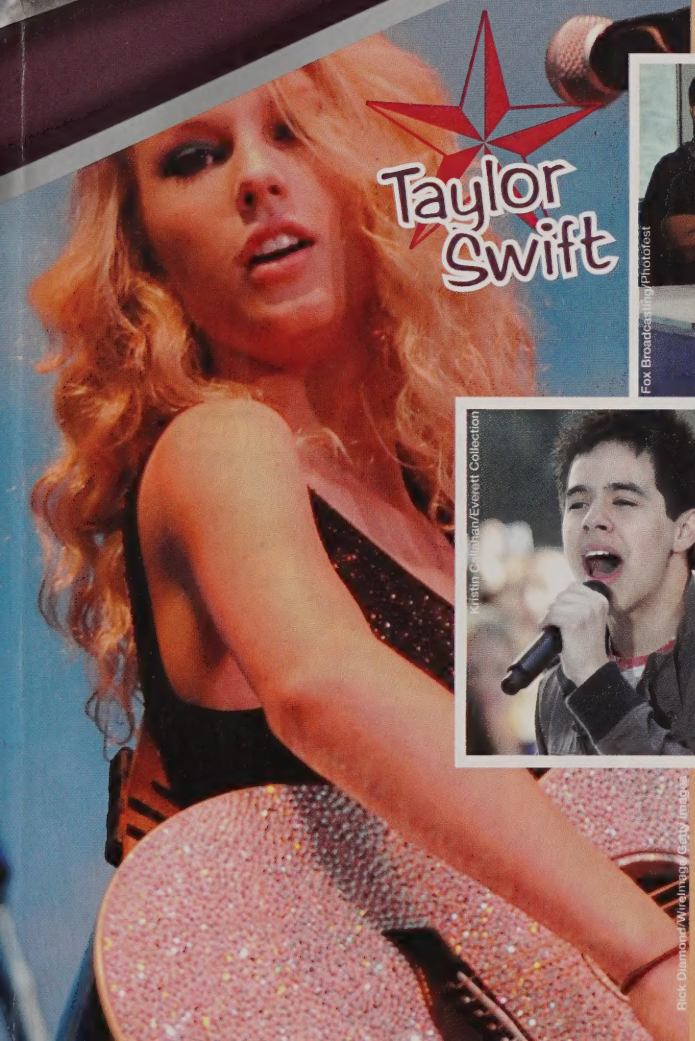
Classic Rock

© Rune Hellestad/Corbis

Kristin Callahan/Everett Collection

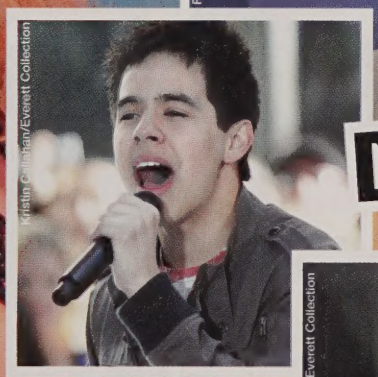
AP Photo/Landov

Fox's *American Idol* adds a fourth judge to the popular show. Grammy-nominated songwriter Kara DioGuardi joins regular panelists Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell.



Rick Diamond/WireImage/Getty Images

Fox Broadcasting/Photofest



Kristin Callahan/Everett Collection

David vs. David

Kristin Callahan/Everett Collection

Rocker David Cook, with 58 percent of the fan votes, beats balladeer David Archuleta in the 2008 finals of Fox's *American Idol*.

Lifestyle

ROB KIM/Landov

242242 cha cha

Texting becomes the new writing. Teens everywhere learn to double-thumb miniature keyboards and invent a new language of abbreviations and signs.

Social Networking

AP Photo/L.G. Patterson

AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews

Digital TV

The nation converts to all-digital TV in 2009. The Department of Commerce offers government coupons to make the conversion more affordable.

Slippers to wear every day

Argyle & Plaid

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ Andrew Vaughan/AP

Big Sunglasses

Photo by Barry King/WireImage/Getty Images

Designer Purses & Shoes

Top style trends this year include baggy pants, oversized sunglasses, designer purses, black nail polish and plaids.

Black Nail Polish

JEFF MOORE/MAXPPP/Landov

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